

**Remarks and Argument**

Claims 1-16 are canceled. Claims 17-22 are pending in this application. Claims 17 and 21 are independent claims.

**Support for Amendments**


The application has been amended to include the claim for priority from the Japanese Patent application no. JP2003-046177 filed in the Japanese Patent Office on 02/24/2003 in the specification. This priority claim was documented in the filing transmittal letter on October 2, 2003 and was acknowledged in the filing receipt of July 1, 2004.

**Summary**

Therefore in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, applicant respectfully requests entry of the amendments, that claims 17-22 remain allowed and the patent allowed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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